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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON

1-7823

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

October 3, 1961

TO: Hon. Allen W. Dulles  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency

FROM: Orville L. Freeman, Secretary

SUBJECT: Current Sino-Soviet Agricultural Intelligence 1/

Current developments in Sino-Soviet domestic agriculture and their related foreign trade and aid programs are of critical and continuing interest to the USDA since they directly concern U.S. agricultural trade and aid programs abroad. In this connection, the Department of Agriculture anticipates an extended period of increased activity by the Communist Bloc to expand their politico-economic programs in many of the underdeveloped countries with large agrarian populations. The Department also expects growing Bloc competition with U.S. agricultural commodities in some of our traditional markets in the more industrialized countries of the world. In both cases, the USDA is concerned that the Bloc agricultural programs have as their ultimate goal the limiting of foreign market outlets for our highly productive agriculture.

Precise and timely intelligence on Sino-Soviet agricultural affairs is a necessary prerequisite for sound and effective policy decisions by USDA officials concerned with foreign agricultural developments. The continued assistance of CIA in supplementing our traditional State and agricultural attache sources of information is of utmost importance. The USDA is particularly interested in:

- a. Statements or estimates on current Sino-Soviet national output of major agricultural commodities.
- b. Information on Sino-Soviet foreign trade in agricultural commodities, including the policy, quantity, and direction of this trade.
- c. Information on Sino-Soviet foreign aid activities, especially in the underdeveloped agrarian countries, including the nature, objectives, and results of agricultural aid programs.



1/ Mainland China, USSR, Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Albania

Growth Through Agricultural Progress

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In order to facilitate contact with the Central Intelligence Agency for the purposes described, the Secretary has appointed Mr. Eugene T. Olson of the Foreign Agricultural Service to serve as liaison for the Secretary's Office with CIA. It is also requested that Mr. Olson continue to serve as a USDA representative on the Economic Intelligence Committee (EIC), the Agricultural Subcommittee of EIC, and to be appointed to such other committees which CIA considers appropriate to accomplish the objective of this memorandum. Mr. Olson will meet with CIA representatives to discuss any questions occasioned by this memorandum.

The intent of this memorandum is to intensify rather than change our existing relationships with CIA. I understand that Mr. Olson has already presented our requirements to the Agency liaison personnel. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the excellent working relationship which exists between CIA and the USDA. I feel sure that this continued cooperation is going to make an effective contribution to the foreign agricultural programs of the USDA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald R. Furman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Donald" being more legible than the last name "Furman".

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